

Dear Board of Trustees;

My name is John Koster. I am a published author of contemporary history involving minorities -- Chinese, Japanese, Koreans and especially American Indians. I am also a U.S. Army veteran RA11758710, NDSM, honorable discharge; with six World War II veterans in my extended family and a first cousins who served in Korea in peace time.

The statement slated for your textbook is farcical.

Seiji Yoshida, the first person to assert that the Comfort Women were kidnapped by Japanese soldiers, was a Communist who ran for office on the Communist ticket in 1947 in Japan and lost. You may verify this on Wikipedia. Seiji Yoshida confessed that he had fabricated the Korean Comfort Woman kidnappings on Jeju Island after both Japanese and South Korean reporters interviewed about 60 older Korean people who said the kidnappings had never taken place. Asahi, the newspaper which published 24 of Yoshida's rants, fired the editor who failed to check facts and retracted all of them..

Bruce Cumings, whose wife is a Korean lady and who is probably the leading American expert on modern Korea, has printed the true facts: most of these unfortunate women were sold to pimps by their own families for debt. The Korean pimps then sold them to Japanese brothels. This happened all over Asia, not just in the Japanese Empire. Shanghai in China. ruled by Britain, was full of contract prostitutes -- mostly Chinese, some Japanese, some Korean.

Yun Ha Park, a South Korean academic, told the true facts in a recent book: *THE COMFORT WOMEN OF THE EMPIRE*. She was indicted by her own South Korean government for telling the truth just as Bruce Cumings did. Her fate has not yet been determined. Look her up. Story in New York Times available.

The present president of South Korea is the daughter of a Korean, who joined the Japanese Army voluntarily and was a colonel in the Japanese Army before and during World War II. Other Koreans murdered him for reasons best known to themselves.

The Global Alliance for Preserving the History of World War II, which is supported by the Communist Chinese Government, requested the Clinton Administration for an investigation to pull out dirt from the Japanese war crimes during World War II, which is later called, "IWG REPORT of 2007". The investigations involved with 7 years of work spilling over to the Bush

Administration, costing the American tax-payers \$30 million. The Verdict was 'NOT Guilty'.

Michael Yon, a U.S. veteran of Iraq, investigated the Comfort Woman story and found no evidence of kidnapping or coercion. The prostitution, which definitely existed, was voluntary at least as far as the Korean families were concerned. [an interview with Michael Yon; Bruce Cumming's book: KOREA'S PLACE IN THE SUN; and Yu-ha Park's book: THE COMFORT WOMEN OF THE EMPIRE.]

U.S. Army Intelligence Report #49, 1944, Ledo Stockade in Burma, covers an interview with 20 Korean Comfort Women. The interviewer described them as "childish and selfish," said that some had been prostitutes before they signed up, and said they received full medical attention and spent their spare time shopping and playing softball with Japanese officers and enlisted men. Some were offered proposals of marriage and received regular gifts of food, stockings, and make-up from regular patrons. We urge you to read this report.

The statements you propose to print are Chinese propaganda unrelated to honest history. Michael Yon called it: Chinese using Korean face [Korean Comfort woman monuments] to rival the U.S. power/ presence in the region.

John Koster

PS: About 1 million California Indians were exterminated by Anglo-Saxons and other whites from the Gold Rush through the turn of the century and many of the women were forced into prostitution by actual kidnapping, Where is their monument?